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Jury Sentences Man to 3 Years in Prison for Sexual Assault

Today, in the 403rd District Court, a Travis County jury sentenced 36-year old Asley Quesada-Diaz to three years in prison after finding him guilty the day before of Sexual Assault. The sexual assault occurred on January 6, 2019 in an apartment complex located in Pflugerville, Texas. Quesada-Diaz was a family friend of the victim and the victim's family had been helping Quesada-Diaz after his recent move to the Austin area from Cuba.

On January 6, 2019 around 8:00 a.m., the victim jumped off the second story balcony of her apartment to escape Quesada-Diaz after he sexually assaulted her in her own home. The victim suffered injuries to her back, legs, and arms after she fell into a rosebush. She then ran to an unknown neighbor that was in his vehicle and hid in the back seat of his car, crouched down between the passenger seat and the back seat. The male neighbor drove her to safety and called 911. DNA later linked Quesada-Diaz to swabs taken from the victim shortly after the sexual assault.

The trial lasted four days and both the victim and the defendant testified. The jury deliberated for four hours before returning a guilty verdict in the case. Travis County Assistant District Attorney Lindsay Richards, assigned to the SVU Sex Crimes Unit, commented after the verdict, "Unfortunately, this case represents the harsh reality that many sexual assaults are perpetrated by people known to the victim. I am grateful that our community is reaching a place where it has a better understanding of the dynamics involved in sexual assault cases and the realities that many sexual assault victims face. I am thankful to the jurors for their careful deliberation and attention to this case."

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